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To the INHABITANTS of the WESTERN COUNTRY, by HUGH HENRY BRACKENRIDGE.

(Continued from our laſt.)

I THINK it of moment to the people of the weſtern country to know ſome thing particularly with reſpect to a motion made by William Findley during the laſt ſeſſion, viz. *that a committee be appointed to prepare and bring in a bill to appoint and empower commiſſioners to purchaſe materials, and therewith erect on the lot of land in the town of Harriſburgh, the property of this commonwealth, a ſtate houſe for the accommodation of the ſupreme executive council and general aſſembly in the execution of their reſpective truſts, and to appropriate effective funds for the completion of the ſaid ſtate houſe.*

The intention of making this motion was wholly unknown to me, and I had not thought a moment on the ſubject. However it was my uſual way in theſe caſes, to let a thing go forward. If it was wrong it could be checked in a future ſtage of its progreſs.

A ſhort time afterwards a motion was made by George Clymer to *reconſider the motion of Findley with a view of diſcharging the committee.* This motion was equally without any previous knowledge by me. But I had reflected a little on the ſubject, and had ſeen the inexpediency of the motion of Findley. I therefore gave my voice to reconſider it. It was reconſidered and the committee diſcharged.

I ſhall now give the reaſons which then weighed with me, or which, reflecting on this ſubject, have occurred to me ſince. They are theſe:

1ſt. *Is it a grievance that the city of Philadelphia remain ſome time longer the ſeat of government?* If it is a *grievance*, in what does it conſiſt? Thoſe who tranſact the affairs of government, or the buſineſs with government, have a great diſtance to traverſe from the weſtern country. Be it ſo; but will not the labour be amply compenſated to thoſe who tranſact the affairs of government by the greater knowledge of information in this city. It is the only city on the water that ever can exiſt in this ſtate to lie directly in the way of intercourſe from the north to the ſouth of the continent. It is a ſeat of ſcience and learned ſocieties. The only place where the gazettes of America ſurpaſs thoſe of Europe; where libraries, private and public, are found, and booksellers with every new publication in the whole circle of literature; where eloquent clergymen of all denominations may be heard from the pulpit; where phyſicians and lawyers of the greateſt eminence reſide; where fleets of merchantmen, or ſhips of war are ſeen every day at the wharves: where merchants from all quarters of the world come; where there is a poliſh of manners, and refinement of behavior amongſt the people. All theſe things conſidered, it muſt be a ſchool of improvement to ſpend a year or two in that capital.

With reſpect to thoſe who may have affairs to tranſact with government. There are few who will not at any rate have buſineſs in the principal city. It is not becauſe it is the ſeat of government, but becauſe it is a great trading city, that Philadelphia is, and will always remain a place for the exchange of all kinds of monies and wares: a place for the diſpoſal of property real or perſonal. I will venture to ſay, that if the ſeat of government was this moment at Harriſburgh, or elſewhere, moſt perſons, before they could ſettle the buſineſs on their hands with the government, either as to lands or other things, muſt go to Philadelphia to arrange ſome preliminary circumſtances. Indeed as to the immediate convenience of thoſe who have buſineſs with the land office, the building of a ſtate houſe at preſent would relieve them but little, for before the government could be removed, the principal part of the buſineſs of the weſtward in this way would be over. They would therefore, under all their embarraſſments, have the expence of theſe buildings to defray, without the advantages.

2. *Would not the removal of the ſeat of government fix an unfavourable impreſſion on the minds of the eaſtern part of the ſtate, againſt the weſtern; and would not this miſchief far outweigh the inconvenience of going a little farther to the ſeat of government?* The *attempt* to remove made an unfavorable impreſſion. It put a ſtop to every thing which was in view to be brought forward for the weſtern country. It was impolitic, therefore, to have made the attempt without a moral certainty of ſucceeding. To uſe a vulgar ſimile, it was ſhewing the teeth without being able to bite. Never let a thing of this kind be attempted again, without the faireſt proſpect of ſucceſs. For bad blood it will draw with it in many of the counties; and why ſhall the weſtern country make herſelf determined enemies without a perfect ſecurity of enjoying the advantages which ſhe has propoſed to herſelf in lieu of the good will and friendſhip ſhe has loſt.

A great majority of the eaſtern counties are certainly in favour of the ſeat of government remaining where it is, for even with the addition of the weſtern counties, whoſe repreſentatives, all, except myſelf, perſiſted in the propoſition to remove, it was carried in favour of Philadelphia. Why then ſhall we render a current majority of the eaſtern members weary of us, and oppoſed to the improvement of our country, for the ſmall advantage of having the ſeat of government an hundred miles nearer to us? The weſtern country is but in a naked ſituation; unprotected from the ſavages; unfurniſhed with ammunition, or with arms, it is but in a needy ſituation, in want of trade and every means of augmenting the neceſſaries, much more the conveniencies of life. We want roads, ſeminaries of learning, and all the advantages of domeſtic economy and improvement. Is it not much better for us to call the attention of the ſtate to theſe objects, than to contend about the ſeat of government. Let the eaſtern counties be indulged with the poſſeſſion of the ſeat of government, and let them with maternal arms embrace our yet infantile ſtate, and give us more ſubſtantial advantages. From the time the motion was made, I found the bad effects it had. I had received aſſurance that if it ſhould not be thought adviſeable to riſk a war with Spain on our account, in the boldneſs of the Miſſiſipp, yet all that could be done ought to be done, and as we were wholly without trade, our ſituation ought to be taken into conſideration, and an *exemption in whole or in part from taxes, for ſometime, ought to be granted to us.* But this motion to remove the ſeat of government, put an end to all ideas of this kind. It could be ſaid, *if you are willing to pay your proportion of [illegible] which it would at leaſt take to erect a ſtate houſe at Harriſburgh, and at the ſame time to draw the ſeat of the ſtate with you, you may well afford to pay your proportion of the taxes in general.*

3. *If the diſtance to a ſeat of government [illegible] phia, is a grievance to the weſtern [illegible] be leſſened by good roads to the capital [illegible] that anſwer the end for a conſiderable period better than a removal? Who is there who would not go Philadelphia with a good road, rather than to Harriſburgh with a bad one*: or, as it is at preſent, with what may almoſt be ſtiled *no road at all?* If the ſeat of government was extended to lake Erie, which is an hundred miles beyond us; even then, with the advantage of good roads, ſuch as they have in Europe, the diſtance to Philadelphia would be diſregarded.

Good roads are the glory of any ſtate: the ſource of its honor with ſtrangers; of wealth to its citizens; of population to the ſettlements. When any man comes into a country and ſees good roads, it muſt be his language, *this is the reſidence of men.* The diſtance to London from any part of England, is diminiſhed by the advantage of *their roads.* How greatly would the diſtance from any part of the ſtate to Philadelphia, be reduced by ſuch roads as they have in Europe.

Good roads from the one end of the ſtate to the other, will be found a much better means of redeeming the inconvenience of the diſtance of the ſeat of government, than that propoſed by the motion of Findley. Good roads will anſwer this end more effectually, and ſerve all the other purpoſes of intercourſe to foreigners and citizens.

4. *Is there no riſk that an attempt to remove the ſeat of government in any ſhort period will end in a diſmemberment of the commonwealth?* Will not the eaſtern country wiſh to diſengage themſelves from the weſtern? During the ſhort interval between the motion of Findley, and the putting a negative on it, which was but a few days, an idea of this kind was ſtrongly entertained by great numbers, and by men of influence. It is true a meaſure of this kind might not have ſucceeded, but that a ſtruggle would have been made, I have no doubt.

The diſmemberment of the commonwealth muſt be conſidered by every man of ſenſe as a great evil. Pennſylvania poſſeſſing her preſent extent of territory muſt always be reſpectable under the confederacy of the United States; reſpectable from the ſums ſhe is able to contribute to the exigencies of the public. Should the confederacy diſſolve, ſhe will then be reſpectable from her numbers and reſources. Her alliance will then be courted, and ſhe will hold the balance of power amongſt the neighbouring ſtates.

Pennſylvania poſſeſſing her preſent extent of territory will be able to provide more effectually for her exigencies at home. The revenues of ſo extenſive a country will enable the government to inſtitute and complete objects of improvement; charitable foundations; literary inſtitutions; bridges erected; roads formed; diſtance rolled up; rivers and mountains, brought under the ſubjection of men.

Pennſylvania poſſeſſing her preſent extent of territory will always be able to ſupport the officers of government with dignity.

For the honour of the government of which I am a citizen, I ſhould wiſh to ſee the public officers reputably ſupported. But for another reaſon, and a ſtronger one, I ſhould wiſh it, by the rendering it an object of ambition from early life, with young men of elegant talents, to be capable of offices which are honorable, and which, when attained, will be a handſome proviſion for their maturer years. It is not ſo much the means of education in a government, as the honors and rewards to which mental acquirements advance the poſſeſſor, that prompt induſtry, and produce men of great eminence. A ſmall government cannot propoſe any great objects; and for that reaſon one of the ſtrongeſt ſprings of human action, *the hope of high reward*, is wanting.

Pennſylvania poſſeſſing her preſent extent of territory will have more chances in her favour for wiſdom in her councils, and if war ſhould be neceſſary, abilities in the field.

From a great number of counties of conſiderable extent, it will be hard if there are not always a few men of enlarged ideas, and real underſtanding. Hence ſome ſteadineſs in government, and ſome ſecurity of property.

What would be the ſituation of the weſtern country, if we were at preſent thrown off from the eaſtern part of the commonwealth? Have we the reſources of government at home, or defence abroad? Have we men of ability to fulfill the various departments of legiſlative, executive, judicial, and miniſterial offices? In Pennſylvania ſince the revolution it is well known there has been a miſerable fluctuation of counties in the grand legiſlative body of the ſtate, ſeven have been made this year and half of them repealed the next. Do beliefs this was owing to the penury of knowledge in the houſe. This evil muſt exiſt more ſenſibly in a diſmembered part of the commonwealth. A man who has nothing to loſe and ſomething to gain may with it: who may at any time *take up his bed and walk* to Kentucky or elſewhere; But no man who has property at ſtake, would think it ſecure under the inſtability, and conſequent inſtability of ſuch a government.

If there is therefore but a bare poſſibility that an attempt within a ſhort period to remove the ſeat of government, may terminate in a diſmemberment of the commonwealth, *let it not be attempted until we are prepared for the alternative ---a ſeparation.*

5. *May not the removal of the ſeat of government be the means of preventing a diſmemberment of the commonwealth, and of ſecuring the preſent extent of territory to Pennſylvania for a greater period of time.* The day may arrive for what I know, when it may be the neceſſary means; but let the people of that day be the judges. The day may arrive, when the removal, if judged neceſſary may be effected with the conſent of the eaſtern counties. When the weſtern end of the ſtate becomes equally ponderous with the eaſtern, the advantage of retaining a populous and wealthy country within the government, may induce intelligent men of all counties, to conſent to a removal. The ſeat of government may then with an eaſy cadence, drop from Philadelphia, and fix itſelf in a more central part of the commonwealth. *All things are eaſy if purſued in mature time.* The fruit that is ripe, falls off; but the unripe is ſeparated by an unnatural convulſion. The ſame means that will make it deſirable for us to diſpenſe with the removal at preſent, viz. *the advantage of good roads*, will render it eligible for the eaſtern part

of the ſtate at a future day, to meet us half way. On this view of things a premature attempt of removal may produce a diſmemberment; but good roads will eſtabliſh the permanency of the preſent extent. There was nothing contributed more to the preſervation of the Roman government during twelve centuries than the advantage of their *roads*. This circumſtance in the moſt extended ſtate of the empire, brought all the provinces within the neighbourhood of Italy. It was but a ſhort diſtance, becauſe it was a pleaſant journey from *one extreme* to the other.

6. *If it ſhall be judged neceſſary to remove the ſeat of government, will it be adviſeable, until a probability exiſts that a permanent ſeat will be choſen?* Not until the whole extent of Pennſylvania is peopled towards the ſources of the Suſquehannah, and the neighbourhood of lake Erie, & all can have a voice for themſelves and their deſcendents, is it to be ſuppoſed that the location will be permanent. To fix the ſeat at preſent, regarding only the peopled country, is making a garment for a youth fitted to his ſize, which he muſt outgrow in a ſhort period. It is fixing the center of gravity of a machine while ſome of the parts of which it is to be compoſed are wanting.

Philadelphia is eccentral, but Harriſburgh is not central. I am not ſaying whether this town may, or may not be the ſeat of government, but I ſay it ought not to be determined at preſent. We ought to wait, as on all the principles I have laid down, there can be no grievance in waiting, nay, inconvenience and danger in not waiting; I ſay this buſineſs, in the language of the houſe, ought to be poſtponed until our ſons towards lake Erie can have a voice in it.

When I conſider Philadelphia as the eye of Pennſylvania; the emporium of the ſtate, the probable reſidence of the congreſs, and all foreign miniſters; the certain reſidence, if the confederacy ſhould diſſolve, of ſome great public body, the repreſentatives of Pennſylvania, and the ſtates in alliance with her; I would not think it any great cataſtrophe if the ſtaple of the government was fixed with an irrevocable chain in that capital.

But if at any time, the ſober and contemplative voice of the people, the expreſſion of feeling, and not of imaginary evil, ſhould demand a removal, let it take place.

7. *Was Findley ſupported by the voice of the people in this motion?* Did he conſult them? Was there a ſingle memorial to the houſe on the ſubject? If there was I never heard of it. This being the caſe, *the motion was premature, and ought not to have been made.*

(To be continued.)

For the PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

Meſſrs. Scull & Boyd,

YOUR Gazette doubtleſs invites to ſuch exerſions of genius and good ſenſe, as cannot fail to improve the underſtanding and promote the virtue of the citizens; and it is pleaſing to find that farmers take ſo large a ſhare in communicating uſeful knowledge; but as writing under that character is become reſpectable, it is not improbable but ſome may aſſume the name of Farmer fictitiouſly; to detect ſuch an attempt I will lay down ſome rules. The farmer, from the independence of his ſituation, will write with a ſimplicity of ſtile, and honeſty of intention; he will addreſs the underſtanding and not the fancy; from the experience of his own employment he will write with ſyſtem, and not glance from ſubject to ſubject like Ignus Fatus or Will of the Wiſp, to deceive his readers; in ſhort, the quibbling illuſions of the barriſter, or ſnarling criticiſms of the pedant, will rarely be found in his compoſitions.

By ſome of theſe characters I ſhall proceed to examine your farmer in No. 38, who inſinuates that he lives on Conemaugh.

He ſets out with exclaiming loudly againſt Mr. Findley's publication, and when the reader's attention is bent to hear it honeſtly refuted, he flies from the ſubject, (doubtleſs becauſe it is ſo ſtubborn) and inſtantly attacks the funding ſyſtem in an inſidious manner; the deſign is clearly to miſlead and inflame, but not to inform; ſome good I am perſuaded will ariſe therefrom, for it will excite your readers to ſeek after ſuch information as is proper to fortify them againſt ſuch deſultory attacks on the only bulwark of our national faith and juſtice; they will inform themſelves of the ſtate of our finances, and the importance of national credit, not only to the honor, but even to to the exiſtence of a commonwealth.

When it is underſtood that Pennſylvania is lighter taxed, hath ſuperior credit, and hath ſunk more of her principal debt than any other ſtate in the union; when it is underſtood that the funding tax is the very ſum demanded by Congreſs in aid of the five per cent. impoſt, and if that ſyſtem had taken place (which the ſmall ſtate of Rhode-Iſland only prevented) Pennſylvania muſt have been much higher taxed; when it is underſtood that the very high tax demanded in the year 1782, was equal to more than five years of the funding tax, and that theſe back counties being in a great part exonerated, and having their quotas low (which doth honor to the attention of thoſe who, at that time were our aſſemblymen) got this tax paid in proper time, yet it is the arrearage of that tax is oppreſſing ſome counties who neglected to diſcharge it before the money drawn out of the country for articles of luxury, and of which arrearages near 80,000l. hath been paid during a year paſt, and that it is the county taxes that at preſent oppreſſes the back and weak counties; and when the people further underſtand that the funding act hath not taken up more than our quota of the whole aggregate debts of the union (it may have taken up more of one particular debt and leſs of another, according as it ſuited the juſtice of the ſtate and the diſtreſſes of our own citizens, but not more than our ſhare of the whole nor equal to it) I ſay, when they come perfectly to underſtand theſe things, which many of them do already, they will not heſitate to judge, that the man, who from private pique, or whatever motive, ſlanders government, in ſo doing, attacks the peace and dignity of every citizen; and he that doth it in an inſidious and concealed manner, acts the part of a dark aſſaſſin, and commits an outrage on the public weal.

But as the great object of this farmer appears to be collecting rarified air, in order to ſwell the weſtern baloon, I ſhall now proceed to examine how the materials which he uſes apply to that favorite purpoſe; theſe conſiſt in the great things done by one member of aſſembly, and the worſe than nothing done by all the other members we have ever had. Let us examine ſome of theſe great deeds-- an academy at Pittſburgh; but pray where, or what are its funds? why it has none! Is there any other in that ſituation? No. There was 60,000 acres of land laſt year appropriated for the uſe of future public ſchools and academies, of which Lancaſter hath this year obtained 10,000 acres, and Waſhington 10,000 acres by a bill ready for the laſt reading, and even the Epiſcopal ſchool at Philadelphia 10,000 acres. Carliſle had got their ſhare of that laſt year. It was no favor to get a charter without a fund; we can, if we were able, ſet up an academy without a law, and ſuch laws the aſſembly never refuſe; it would have been obtained if we had aſked it, without having a member in the houſe: why did the member (who himſelf brought in the bill without a committee) not inſert 10,000 acres in the bill, ſince it was to be got for the aſking; I call upon him, I call upon our other members, why aſking for a part of the reſerved tract was left to the laſt reading of the bill, when it could not be granted without breaking the conſtitution. Could Daddy Dougherty, whom this farmer mentions, have done leſs or blundered worſe than this? Surely not. But it is ſaid he hath proſpects of obtaining land for it; ſo may any other perſon if they deſign to apply; but after what is already granted to other inſtitutions is culled out of the 60,000 acres, what will the remainder be worth? I think very little. I muſt be ſhort on other things; a ſociety incorporated at Pittſburgh, that is abſolutely falſe; through the attention of a member not this year in the houſe, the charter of that ſociety was brought forward to the third reading, laſt year, and it, and ſome others of the ſame kind, were left incompleat for want of time; but in that ſtate it ſtood when our great weſtern member called it up, and by having the term, Preſbyterian, ſtruck out, left it without any deſignation known in law, and therefore uſeleſs; and when called upon in the laſt ſeſſion to call it up and have it amended and enacted, promiſed to do it, until the time was nearly elapſed, and then refuſed to do it at all. But five hundred pounds was obtained for the laying off a road to the Conemaugh. What then? two years ſince, when other members were in place, 2000l. was obtained for a weſtern road; as to any active hand this great member had in it, the one might as well be aſcribed to him as the other, with this difference, that in the one caſe he was a member and did not oppoſe it, and in the other he was not a member; let any perſon examine the minutes, and they will find who introduced and conducted the buſineſs of the Conemaugh road, but certain it is, that the houſe doth theſe things, and it is a ſhameful novelty for any member to publiſh as if he had done all himſelf.

But it is aſked why the arrearage on certificate buſineſs was not done ſooner by thoſe members who are now ſo much for it, that they will not put it off ſome months? A man who aſks this queſtion, either muſt be ſo deſtitute of information or of honeſty, to write at all; the truth is, the then exiſting law did not expire until the 9th of laſt April, therefore it was not neceſſary, or could not with propriety be done ſooner; and if it had been delayed, the ſheriffs muſt have been ſelling the peoples lands before this time, by order of the land office; the proper officers could not avoid doing it. The reſerving a tract of land at Lake Erie was introduced by a meſſage from council, and the laying out a town, was added by a weſtern member, but not by this all-ſufficient member. Thus the boaſted claims in the performance under conſideration, have been briefly and truly examined; the honor due to this member on account of many other exertions, ſhall be deferred until a proper time, but I ſhall juſt obſerve, that it is an illiberal miſtake in the farmer, to ſay, that the policy of the back country members, and their leiſure, is all engroſſed with the bank, for it is invariably their policy, and they endeavor to have nothing to do with it; the great member endeavored with all his power to urge it on the houſe, and his colleagues to keep it off.

Conemaugh diſowns the pretended farmer, but he is well known by his manner. Who but the man under various ſignatures trumpets loud his own fame, and ranks himſelf before the greateſt men in America, and fully equal to Fox and Pitt, would write ſuch ſtuff? The very polite introduction of Mr. Dougherty, and his manner of drinking whiſky, and his genteel compliment to all the members of aſſembly, who have at any time ſerved for this country, are highly characteriſtick.

The gentleman, who acted the part of a meſſenger to this ſpurious production, is well known, he hath been honored with better offices.

I am, &c.

A REAL FARMER.

Foreign Intelligence.

UTRECHT, Feb. 1.

WE learn from Deventer, in Overyſſel, that the minds of the people there are filled with the utmoſt acrimony of party ſpirit: and that the regency, in conjunction with part of the inhabitants, are endeavouring to introduce a new regulation, while their opponents declare themſelves as obſtinately in favor of that of 1765. The anti-reformers have drawn up a memorial, wherein their ſentiments on the affairs of the province are explained; and they declare that if this piece, like a former paper on the ſame ſubject, produces no anſwer, they ſhall have recourſe to every conſtitutional means of maintaining their rights and immunities. In ſhort, ſuch is the popular diſcontent, that ſome violent exploſion is every day expected.

LONDON, Jan. 31.

By private letters from Conſtantinople, dated the fifteenth of laſt month, we hear, "That a bloody battle has been fought in the environs of the capital of Romelia, between the troops of Machmut and Baſhaw, and thoſe of the other Baſhaws ſent againſt him. They make the number of the dead, in this action, amount to twenty thouſand, but which ſide got the victory is not known.

Feb. 2. By the laſt advices from Canton, in China, we learn, that two new quick-ſilver mines have been opened lately in that territory, in conſequence of which that ſemi-metal, which lately was exported to great advantage from Europe, fell near fifty per cent. and occaſioned a conſiderable loſs to the adventurers who carried it from this quarter of the globe.

Feb. 15. On Chriſtmas eve, and the next day, the inhabitants of Rimini, in Italy, felt a moſt terrible ſhock of an earthquake. Several houſes, the cuſtom houſe, and the Cordeliers church, were thrown down. Auguſtus's triumphal arch burſt in the middle, and Trajan's bridge was very much damaged. Forty perſons periſhed by the above accident. The conſternation was ſo great, that upwards of two thouſand inhabitants left the town, and ſought for ſhelter in the open plain, and on the borders of the ſea.

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Extract of a letter from Paris, Feb. 10.

"An attorney's clerk near St. Honore-ſtreet, having had an intrigue with his maſter's maid ſervant, ung-

of the ſtate at a future day to meet us half way. On this view of things a premature attempt of removal may produce a diſmemberment; but good roads will eſtabliſh the permanency of the preſent extent. There was nothing contributed more to the preſervation of the Roman government during twelve centuries than the advantage of their *roads*. This circumſtance in the moſt extended ſtate of the empire, brought all the provinces within the neighbourhood of Italy. It was but a ſhort diſtance, becauſe it was a pleaſant journey from *one extreme* to the other.

6. *If it ſhall be judged neceſſary to remove the ſeat of government, will it be adviſeable, until a probability exiſts that a permanent ſeat will be choſen?* Not until the whole extent of Pennſylvania is peopled towards the ſources of the Suſquehannah, and the neighbourhood of lake Erie, & all can have a voice for themſelves and their deſcendents, is it to be ſuppoſed that the location will be permanent. To fix the ſeat at preſent, regarding only the peopled country, is making a garment for a youth fitted to his ſize, which he muſt outgrow in a ſhort period. It is fixing the center of gravity of a machine while ſome of the parts of which it is to be compoſed are wanting.

Philadelphia is eccentral, but Harriſburgh is not central. I am not ſaying whether this town may, or may not be the ſeat of government, but I ſay it ought not to be determined at preſent. We ought to wait, as on all the principles I have laid down, there can be no grievance in waiting, nay, inconvenience and danger in not waiting; I ſay this buſineſs, in the language of the houſe, ought to be poſtponed until our ſons towards lake Erie can have a voice in it.

When I conſider Philadelphia as the eye of Pennſylvania; the emporium of the ſtate, the probable reſidence of the congreſs, and all foreign miniſters; the certain reſidence, if the confederacy ſhould diſſolve, of ſome great public body, the repreſentatives of Pennſylvania, and the ſtates in alliance with her; I would not think it any great cataſtrophe if the ſtaple of the government was fixed with an irrevocable chain in that capital.

But if at any time, the ſober and contemplative voice of the people, the expreſſion of feeling, and not of imaginary evil, ſhould demand a removal, let it take place.

7. *Was Findley ſupported by the voice of the people in this motion?* Did he conſult them? Was there a ſingle memorial to the houſe on the ſubject? If there was I never heard of it. This being the caſe, *the motion was premature, and ought not to have been made.*

(To be continued.)

For the PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

Meſſrs. Scull & Boyd,

YOUR Gazette doubtleſs invites to ſuch exerſions of genius and good ſenſe, as cannot fail to improve the underſtanding and promote the virtue of the citizens; and it is pleaſing to find that farmers take ſo large a ſhare in communicating uſeful knowledge; but as writing under that character is become reſpectable, it is not improbable but ſome may aſſume the name of Farmer fictitiouſly; to detect ſuch an attempt I will lay down ſome rules. The farmer, from the independence of his ſituation, will write with a ſimplicity of ſtile, and honeſty of intention; he will addreſs the underſtanding and not the fancy; from the experience of his own employment he will write with ſyſtem, and not glance from ſubject to ſubject like Ignus Fatus or Will of the W ſp, to deceive his readers; in ſhort, the quibbling illuſions of the barriſter, or ſnarling criticiſms of the pedant, will rarely be found in his compoſitions.

By ſome of theſe characters I ſhall proceed to examine your farmer in No. 38, who inſinuates that he lives on Conemaugh.

He ſets out with exclaiming loudly againſt Mr. Findley's publication, and when the reader's attention is bent to hear it honeſtly refuted, he flies from the ſubject, (doubtleſs becauſe it is ſo ſtubborn) and inſtantly attacks the funding ſyſtem in an inſidious manner; the deſign is clearly to miſlead and inflame, but not to inform: ſome good I am perſuaded will ariſe therefrom, for it will excite your readers to ſeek after ſuch information as is proper to fortify them againſt ſuch deſultory attacks on the only bulwark of our national faith and juſtice; they will inform themſelves of the ſtate of our finances, and the importance of national credit, not only to the honor, but even to to the exiſtence of a commonwealth.

When it is underſtood that Pennſylvania is lighter taxed, hath ſuperior credit, and hath ſunk more of her principal debt than any other ſtate in the union; when it is underſtood that the funding tax is the very ſum demanded by Congreſs in aid of the five per cent. impoſt, and if that ſyſtem had taken place (which the ſmall ſtate of Rhode-Iſland only prevented) Pennſylvania muſt have been much higher taxed; when it is underſtood that the very high tax demanded in the year 1782, was equal to more than five years of the funding tax, and that theſe back counties being in a great part exonerated, and having their quotas low (which doth honor to the attention of thoſe who, at that time were our aſſemblymen) got this tax paid in proper time, yet it is the arrearage of that tax is oppreſſing ſome counties who neglected to diſcharge it before the money drawn out of the country for articles of luxury, and of which arrearages near 80,000l. hath been paid during a year paſt, and that it is the county taxes that at preſent oppreſſes the back and weak counties; and when the people further underſtand that the funding act hath not taken up more than our quota of the whole aggregate debts of the union (it may have taken up more of one particular debt and leſs of another, according as it ſuited the juſtice of the ſtate and the diſtreſſes of our own citizens, but not more than our ſhare of the whole nor equal to it) I ſay, when they come perfectly to underſtand theſe things, which many of them do already, they will not heſitate to judge, that the man, who from private pique, or whatever motive, ſlanders government, in ſo doing, attacks the peace and dignity of every citizen; and he that doth it in an inſidious and concealed manner, acts the part of a dark aſſaſſin, and commits an outrage on the public weal.

But as the great object of this farmer appears to be collecting rarified air, in order to ſwell the weſtern baloon, I ſhall now proceed to examine how the materials which he uſes apply to that favorite purpoſe; theſe conſiſt in the great things done by one member of aſſembly, and the worſe than nothing done by all the other members we have ever had. Let us examine ſome of theſe great deeds-- an academy at Pittſburgh; but pray where, or what are its funds? why it has none! Is there any other in that ſituation? No. There was 60,000 acres of land laſt year appropriated for the uſe of future public ſchools and academies, of which Lancaſter hath this year obtained 10,000 acres, and Waſhington 10,000 acres by a bill ready for the laſt reading, and even the Epiſcopal ſchool at Philadelphia 10,000 acres. Carliſle had got their ſhare of that laſt year. It was no favor to get a charter without a fund; we can, if we were able, ſet up an academy without a law, and ſuch laws the aſſembly never refuſe; it would have been obtained if we had aſked it, without having a member in the houſe: why did the member (who himſelf brought in the bill without a committee) not inſert 10,000 acres in the bill, ſince it was to be got for the aſking; I call upon him, I call upon our other members, why aſking for a part of the reſerved tract was left to the laſt reading of the bill, when it could not be granted without breaking the conſtitution. Could Daddy Dougherty, whom this farmer mentions, have done leſs or blundered worſe than this? Surely not. But it is ſaid he hath proſpects of obtaining land for it; ſo may any other perſon if they deſign to apply; but after what is already granted to other inſtitutions is culled out of the 60,000 acres, what will the remainder be worth? I think very little. I muſt be ſhort on other things; a ſociety incorporated at Pittſburgh, that is abſolutely falſe; through the attention of a member not this year in the houſe, the charter of that ſociety was brought forward to the third reading, laſt year, and it, and ſome others of the ſame kind, were left incompleat for want of time; but in that ſtate it ſtood when our great weſtern member called it up, and by having the term, Preſbyterian, ſtruck out, left it without any deſignation known in law, and therefore uſeleſs; and when called upon in the laſt ſeſſion to call it up and have it amended and enacted, promiſed to do it, until the time was nearly elapſed, and then refuſed to do it at all. But five hundred pounds was obtained for the laying off a road to the Conemaugh. What then? two years ſince, when other members were in place, 2000l. was obtained for a weſtern road; as to any active hand this great member had in it, the one might as well be aſcribed to him as the other, with this difference, that in the one caſe he was a member and did not oppoſe it, and in the other he was not a member; let any perſon examine the minutes, and they will find who introduced and conducted the buſineſs of the Conemaugh road, but certain it is, that the houſe doth theſe things, and it is a ſhameful novelty for any member to publiſh as if he had done all himſelf.

But it is aſked why the arrearage on certificate buſineſs was not done ſooner by thoſe members who are now ſo much for it, that they will not put it off ſome months? A man who aſks this queſtion, either muſt be ſo deſtitute of information or of honeſty, to write at all; the truth is, the then exiſting law did not expire until the 9th of laſt April, therefore it was not neceſſary, or could not with propriety be done ſooner; and if it had been delayed, the ſheriffs muſt have been ſelling the peoples lands before this time, by order of the land office; the proper officers could not avoid doing it. The reſerving a tract of land at Lake Erie was introduced by a meſſage from council, and the laying out a town, was added by a weſtern member, but not by this all-ſufficient member. Thus the boaſted claims in the performance under conſideration, have been briefly and truly examined; the honor due to this member on account of many other exertions, ſhall be deferred until a proper time, but I ſhall juſt obſerve, that it is an illiberal miſtake in the farmer, to ſay, that the policy of the back country members, and their leiſure, is all engroſſed with the bank, for it is invariably their policy, and they endeavor to have nothing to do with it; the great member endeavored with all his power to urge it on the houſe, and his colleagues to keep it off.

Conemaugh diſowns the pretended farmer, but he is well known by his manner. Who but the man under various ſignatures trumpets loud his own fame, and ranks himſelf before the greateſt men in America, and fully equal to Fox and Pitt, would write ſuch ſtuff? The very polite introduction of Mr. Dougherty, and his manner of drinking whiſky, and his genteel compliment to all the members of aſſembly, who have at any time ſerved for this country, are highly characteriſtick.

The gentleman, who acted the part of a meſſenger to this ſpurious production, is well known, he hath been honored with better offices.

I am, &c.

A REAL FARMER.

Foreign Intelligence.

UTRECHT, Feb. 1.

WE learn from Deventer, in Overyſſel, that the minds of the people there are filled with the utmoſt acrimony of party ſpirit: and that the regency, in conjunction with part of the inhabitants, are endeavouring to introduce a new regulation, while their opponents declare themſelves as obſtinately in favor of that of 1765. The anti-reformers have drawn up a memorial, wherein their ſentiments on the affairs of the province are explained; and they declare that if this piece, like a former paper on the ſame ſubject, produces no anſwer, they ſhall have recourſe to every conſtitutional means of maintaining their rights and immunities. In ſhort, ſuch is the popular diſcontent, that ſome violent exploſion is every day expected.

LONDON, Jan. 31.

By private letters from Conſtantinople, dated the fifteenth of laſt month, we hear, "That a bloody battle has been fought in the environs of the capital of Romelia, between the troops of Machmut and Baſhaw, and thoſe of the other Baſhaws ſent againſt him. They make the number of the dead, in this action, amount to twenty thouſand, but which ſide got the victory is not known.

Feb. 2. By the laſt advices from Canton, in China, we learn, that two new quick ſilver mines have been opened lately in that territory, in conſequence of which that ſemi-metal, which lately was exported to great advantage from Europe, fell near fifty per cent. and occaſioned a conſiderable loſs to the adventurers who carried it from this quarter of the globe.

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When anatomiſts diſſect a body for the inſtruction of their pupils, they generally divide the labour; one takes the head, another the heart, another the abdomen, and another the limbs. Preciſely in this manner the oppoſition are diſſecting the merits of Mr. Haſtings's conduct. Burke's inſtruments being a little blunt, Mr. Sheridan brought his ſcalpels, which it muſt be acknowledged cut with a keen edge.

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Extract of a letter from Paris, Feb. 10.

"An attorney's clerk near St. Honore-ſtreet, having had an intrigue with his maſter's maid ſervant, ung-

ble to save her from infamy through the want of money, being refused by his relations a sum he had solicited, made away with himself, and left this laconic note behind; "I leave my soul to God, my body to the earth, my goods to the maid, and my relations to the devil."

American Occurrences.

BOSTON, April 20.

Reasonably it is to be expected, says a correspondent, that the deliberations of the sages and patriots, who are to meet in convention at Philadelphia next month, will be attended with much good. An union of the abilities of so distinguished a body of men, among whom will be a FRANKLIN and a WASHINGTON, cannot but produce the most salutary measures. These last names affixed to their recommendations (and it is to be hoped that this will be the case) will stamp a confidence in them which the narrow soul'd, antifederal politicians in the several states, who, by their influence, have hitherto damn'd us as a nation, will dare not to attack or endeavor to nullify.

BALTIMORE, April 20.

The darkness of ignorance which have enveloped the face of the earth, are either totally dissipated, or vanish rapidly through the daily progression of time. An intellectual illumination, and the knowledge we have acquired of our rights as men, bear equal pace with the illustration of our moral duties. Philosophy has seated reason on her throne, and extended the limits of her power. She has removed the influence of prepossession and prejudice and demolished the yoke of superstition. The sovereign authority of princes is defined and understood, and bounds are prescribed to civil and religious tyranny. She has vindicated the rights of liberty, which should never be controuled or invaded, and through her, toleration obtains universal sway. By her exertions the science of government is better understood; for wise and salutary laws have taken lead of odious prescripts and barbarous customs. Maxims familiar to our conceptions, directly pointing to our felicity, and subservient to all the purposes of society and intercourse have been established on such a basis as can never be subverted by tyranny and domination. Even wars are less frequent, and they are not accompanied with that inhumanity recorded of ancient days. The interruption of peace is not now a trivial consideration, and under the guidance of philosophy, its duration is not impeded by rash, unexpected and savage incursions. A thousand absurdities have been suppressed, and she has introduced humanity and politeness, and diffused their impressions on every order and distinction of men, among civilized nations. In a word, she has rooted up, fertilized and improved the ground from which we are to collect the happiness of man, and we can at length exclaim.---*Philosophical truths are triumphant, and the preservation of mankind is the happy consequence.*

PHILADELPHIA, April 27.

The reasons assigned in the following letter of his excellency general Washington, for declining the presidential chair of the general society of Cincinnati, will, it is feared, also prevent him from taking his seat in the Federal Convention. Though we are assured, from good authority, that his excellency has since taken up a resolution to attend that very important assembly in May next.

(CIRCULAR.)

Mount Vernon, in Virginia, October 31st, 1786.

SIR,

I TAKE this early opportunity, in my character of president of the Cincinnati, of announcing to you, that the triennial general meeting of the society is to be convened at the city of Philadelphia, on the first Monday of May, in the year 1787.

As it will not be in my power, (for reasons which I shall have the honor of immediately communicating) to attend the next general meeting, and as it may become more and more inconvenient for me to be absent from my farms, or to receive appointments which will divert me from my private affairs, I think it proper also to acquaint you, for the information of your delegates to the general meeting, that it is my desire not to be re-elected to the presidency, since I should find myself under the necessity of declining the acceptance of it.

The numerous applications for information, advice, or assistance, which are made to me in consequence of my military command; the multiplicity of my correspondencies in this country, as well as in many parts of Europe; the variety and perplexity of my own private concerns, which, having been much deranged by my absence through the war, demand my entire and unremitting attention; the arduousness of the task, in which I have been, as it were, unavoidably engaged, of superintending the opening the navigation of the great rivers in this state; the natural desire of tranquility and relaxation from business, which almost every one experiences at my time of life, particularly after having acted (during a considerable period) as no idle spectator in uncommonly busy and important scenes; and the present imbecility of my health, occasioned by a violent attack of the fever and ague, succeeded by rheumatic pains, to which, till of late, I have been an entire stranger, will, I doubt not, be considered as reasons of sufficient validity to justify my conduct in the present instance.

Although the whole of these reasons could not have before operated, yet, in conformity to my determination of passing the remainder of my days in a state of retirement. I should certainly have refused to accept the office of president, with which I was honored in 1784; but from an apprehension that my refusal, at that time, might have been misrepresented as a kind of dereliction of the society on my part, or imputed to a disapprobation of the principles on which it was then established. To convince the opposers of the institution, should any such remain, that this was not the fact, and to give no colourable pretext for unreasonable attacks, I prevailed upon myself to accept the appointment, with a view of holding it only until the next election: before which time I expected the jealousy which had been excited would subside---and this, I am happy to be informed, has universally taken place.

Highly approving, as I do, the principles on which the society is now constituted, and pleased to find, so far as I have been able to learn, from reiterated enquiries, that it is acceptable to the United States in general, it only remains for me to express the sense I entertain of the honor conferred by the last general meeting, in electing me their president, and to implore in future the benediction of Heaven on the virtuous associates in this illustrious institution.

During the residue of my continuance in office, I shall be constantly ready to sign such *diplomas* as may be requisite for the members of your state society, being sincerely desirous of giving every possible proof of attachment, esteem and affection for them; as well as of demonstrating the sentiments of perfect consideration and respect, with which,

I have the honor to be,
SIR,
Your most obedient and
Most humble servant,
G. WASHINGTON.

The President of the Society of the
Cincinnati in Pennsylvania.

P. S. I have thought it expedient to forward a transcript of this circular address to major general Gates, vice president of the society, in order that the general meeting may suffer no embarrassment for want of an official character to preside at the opening of it.

Pittsburgh, June 2.

Since the 10th of October, 1786, to May the 12th, 1787, there has passed down the Ohio river for Kentucky, 177 boats, 2689 people, 1333 horses, 766 cattle, 102 waggons, and 1 phæton. This account is taken from a journal kept by the adjutant at Fort Harmar, on Muskinghum.

A number passed in the night unobserved.

From the CONNECTICUT MAGAZINE.

SCENE, *a Street in New Haven.*

A FEW morning ago---I remember it was a cold and rainy one---as I was passing hastily through one of the streets---I was very much struck with a melancholy figure of a blind man, who was singing a song of love---Misery could not have found, among the number of distressed mortals, a form more suited to her nature---While I was contemplating the wretchedness of the object, and comparing it with the strain which necessity compelled him to chaunt;---a sailor, who came whistlinglalong the street, with a stick under his arm, stopped and purchased a ballad of the blind man,---"God preserve you, whoever you are," said the blind man, for I have not tasted bread this blessed day---on a sudden sprung up four steps into a baker's shop near which he stood---and returning immediately, he thrust a small loaf into the poor man's hand---and went off whistling as he came.---I was so affected with this truly noble act of generosity, that I called the honest seaman back to me---and taking the little silver I had about me, which I think was about four shillings---"Thy nobleness of soul," said I, "and the goodness of thy heart, my lad, which I have just seen so bright an instance of, makes me sorry that I cannot reward thee as thou deservest.---However, accept this trifle, as a small testimony how much I admire thy generous nature. "God bless your noble honor," said the sailor, "and thank you!---but we will divide the prize money fairly;"---so stepping back to the blind man, he gave him half of it---and clapping him on the shoulder at the same time, he added withal, "there are two shillings for thee, my blind Cupid, for which you are not obliged to me, but to a noble gentleman who stands within five yards of thee; so get into a harbour and make thyself warm, and keep thy humstrum for fair weather."---Then giving his hat a quick wave over his head, he thanked me again, and went nimbly down the street.

YORICK.

SONNET.

THE partial Muse has from my earliest hours,
Smil'd on the rugged path I'm doom'd to tread;
And still with sportive hand has snatch'd wild flowers,
To weave fantastic garlands for my head.

But far, far happier is the lot of those
Who never learn'd her dear delusive art,
Which, while it decks the head with many a rose,
Reserves the thorn to settle in the heart.

For still she bids soft pity's melting eye
Stream o'er the ills she knows not to remove;
Paints every pang, and deepens every sigh
Of mourning friendship or despairing love.

ANECDOTES.

WHEN Doctor Franklin was travelling from Philadelphia to Boston, he found the inquisitive disposition of the Yankees very troublesome, to avoid which, when he entered a tavern, he called all the family together, and told them, "My name is Ben Franklin; by trade a Printer; I am going from Philadelphia to Boston, but I will not tell you my business there; and so Mr. Landlord give me a beef steake."

WHEN the grand triumphal arch at Philadelphia, took fire, one of the guards, a warm hearted son of Saint Patrick, tore off General Washington's picture, saying, "By Jesus we must save this or we'll all go to the Devil."

STRAYED from Mr. Redick, of Washington, about the first of this instant, May, from Mr. John Reed's in Dickinson township, Washington county, a Sorrel Mare about ten years old, branded on the buttock O G. a star in her forehead; trots and canters well. She was seen passing the plantation of John Douglass, esq. on the direct course to Washington. Whoever secures said Mare and sends her to Mr. Redick will receive of him Two Dollars reward and reasonable charges.

Washington county, May 17, 1787.

WHEREAS a certain Jonathan Philips did obtain seven separate bonds of the subscriber; one of which became due in April, 1787, and the remaining six to be paid yearly from that date, they being in consideration of a tract of land said Philips sold to me. I do hereby forewarn all persons from taking an assignment of said bonds, as there is a considerable part of the land sold to me which I cannot obtain, and I do not intend paying for any more than I hold unless compelled by law.

THOS. B. PATTERSON.

Ten Dollars Reward,

DESERTED from my command at Venango, the following described persons, viz.

James Robinson, five feet eight inches high, well made, twenty-three years old, fair, fresh complexion, sandy hair, born in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Patrick Colbert, five feet, five inches high, well proportioned, dark complexion, black hair short and curly, born in Ireland.

James Mortimer, five feet 5 inches high, dark complexion, short black hair, born in the state of New-York.

Michael Heneſy, five feet 9 inches high, a robust looking fellow, brown hair, a little freckled, pitted with the small pox; born in Ireland.

Whoever secures the above deserters, so that they may be brought to me at Venango, shall receive the above reward, or in proportion for either of them.

JONATHAN HEART, capt. 1st American Regiment, in the service of the U. S.

WHereas the partnerſhip of Hugh Gardner and John Cowan was diſſolved the 10th inſt. this is to inform the public that the ſubſcriber will be accountable for no debts or concerns of Mr. Gardner's after that day, as alſo to inform all perſons concerned, that thoſe who are now indebted to ſaid company for bread, will not pay their accounts without having my diſcharge, as I ſhall look to ſuch debtors for ſaid accounts until I have a ſettlement with Mr. Gardner; thoſe to whom ſaid company are indebted are requeſted to leave a copy of their accounts with Mr. Gardner, ſo that I may have a final ſettlement of this concern. JOHN COWAN.

Pittſburg, May 10, 1787.

POST-OFFICE,

Philadelphia, March 2, 1787.

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To any Perſon reſiding in the Country,

A Negro Wench.

She is an excellent cook, and can do any kind of work in or out of doors. She has been regiſtered in Weſtmoreland county. Produce will be taken, or cattle of any kind. Enquire of col. John Gibſon, Fort-Pitt.

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DAVID DUNCAN.

Pittſburgh, March 8, 1787.

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All applications and orders from perſons reſiding in any part of this, or of the United States, will be punctually attended to; whether to make purchaſes or ſales, payments in the land office, or to receive intereſt at the continental loan office or ſtate treaſury.

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Who buys and ſells all kinds of CERTIFICATES of this ſtate, or any of the United States.

Philadelphia, Sept. 2, 1786.

The Famous HORSE

EXPERIMENT,

WILL cover this ſeaſon, at the ſtable of the ſubſcriber living in Pittſburgh, at the low rate of ſix dollars the ſeaſon; three dollars the ſingle leap: and two buſhels of oats; or twelve dollars for enſuring a colt.

Experiment was bred by Col. William Churchill, in Middleſex, old Virginia; his ſire King Herod, who was got by old Pearnought, out of the high bred imported mare Kitty Fiſher; his dam by Othello; his grand dam by Childers: his great grand dam by the imported horſe Dancing Maſter.

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N. B. Good paſture may be had convenient and reaſonable.

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Pittſburgh, July 28.

DANIEL BRITT & Co. once more call on thoſe indebted to the late houſe of Craig, Bayard & Co. to come and ſettle their accounts, as they need not expect any further lenity.

Pittſburgh, Dec. 20, 1786.

WHEREAS a Mr. Richard Graham, who was a deputy ſurveyor, ſurveyed a tract of land for the ſubſcriber, for which he gave him a promiſſory note for about four pounds, and the ſaid ſurvey being rejected by the ſurveyor general was therefore uſeleſs to the ſubſcriber. Notice is hereby given, that the ſubſcriber will not pay ſaid note unleſs compelled by law.

May 5, 1787 JAMES SMITH.

Juſt Publiſhed, and to be ſold, wholeſale and retail, by the printers hereof,

THE

A, B, C.

WITH THE

Shorter Catechiſm,

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

Some SHORT and EASY QUESTIONS for CHILDREN.

WHEREAS a certain Andrew Robertſon of the town of Pittſburg, obtained two notes of hand dated the 25th January 1787, and payable the firſt of this month (April) the one for ſeventy pounds, to be paid in country produce, the other for thirty pounds to be paid in ſpecie. And ſince I gave the aforeſaid notes to the ſaid Robertſon, I find he has given an aſſignment of the one for ſeventy pounds. I hereby forwarn any perſon to take an aſſignment on the one for thirty pounds, as I am determined not to pay it, until the ſaid Andrew Robertſon fulfils an engagement entered into, in conſequence of which he obtained the above mentioned notes from me.

WILDAY TAYLOR.

Duncard Bottom, April 27, 1787.

FOR SALE, BY

ROBERT BROWN,

At the houſe of Mr. James Chambers, in Pittſburgh.

A General aſſortment of pot metal and iron; alſo a quantity of dry goods, rum, wine, and ſalt, which will be ſold on the loweſt terms for caſh or country produce.

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By the dozen or ſingle one, may be had at the printing-office.

CLAIMS againſt the UNITED STATES.

Office of accounts, Marine Department, New-York January 1, 1787.

ALL perſons having claims againſt the United States, for ſervices performed, or articles ſupplied, in the Marine Department, are hereby notified, that unleſs their accounts are ſpeedily ſent to this office, they will be precluded from any ſettlement as a day will ſhortly be fixed, after which no claims will be received.

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